



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 538

January Session, 2013

Substitute Senate Bill No. 991

Senate, April 17, 2013

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. GERRATANA of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING AN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PALLIATIVE CARE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) (a) There is established,
2 within available appropriations, within the Department of Public
3 Health, a Palliative Care Advisory Council. The advisory council shall:
4 (1) Analyze the current state of palliative care in the state; and (2)
5 advise the department on matters relating to the improvement of
6 palliative care and the quality of life for persons with serious or
7 chronic illnesses.

8 (b) The advisory council shall consist of the following members:

9 (1) Two appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a
10 physician certified by the American Board of Hospice and Palliative
11 Medicine and one of whom shall be a registered nurse or advanced
12 practice registered nurse certified by the National Board for
13 Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses;

14 (2) Six appointed by the Commissioner of Public Health, each of
15 whom shall be a licensed health care provider, with each appointee
16 having experience or expertise in the provision of one of the following:
17 (A) Inpatient palliative care in a hospital; (B) inpatient palliative care in
18 a nursing home facility; (C) palliative care in the patient's home or a
19 community setting; (D) pediatric palliative care; (E) palliative care for
20 young adults; or (F) palliative care for adults or elderly persons;

21 (3) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
22 who shall be a licensed social worker experienced in working with
23 persons with serious or chronic illness and their family members;

24 (4) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who
25 shall be a licensed pharmacist experienced in working with persons
26 with serious or chronic illness;

27 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
28 Representatives, who shall be a spiritual counselor experienced in
29 working with persons with serious or chronic illness and their family
30 members; and

31 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
32 a representative of the American Cancer Society or a person
33 experienced in advocating for persons with serious or chronic illness
34 and their family members.

35 (c) All appointments to the advisory council shall be made not later
36 than December 31, 2013. Advisory council members shall serve three-
37 year terms. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.

38 (d) Members shall receive no compensation except for
39 reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred in performing their
40 duties.

41 (e) The members shall elect the chairperson of the advisory council
42 from among the members of the advisory council. A majority of the
43 advisory council members shall constitute a quorum. Any action taken
44 by the advisory council shall require a majority vote of those present.

45 Such chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the advisory
46 council, which shall be held not later than December 31, 2013. The
47 advisory council shall meet biannually and at other times upon the call
48 of the chairperson or upon the request of a majority of the advisory
49 council members.

50 (f) Not later than January 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the
51 advisory council shall submit a report on its findings and
52 recommendations to the Commissioner of Public Health and the joint
53 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
54 matters relating to public health, in accordance with the provisions of
55 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2013	New section

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Public Health, Dept.	GF - Cost	less than 1,000	less than 1,000

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill specifies that the Department of Public Health (DPH) implement the provisions of the bill within available appropriations. However, if the bill were to be implemented, the potential cost to DPH would be less than \$1,000 annually. This potential cost is associated with mileage reimbursement for Palliative Care Advisory Council members. Under the bill, members shall receive compensation for necessary expenses incurring in performing their duties.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 991*****AN ACT CONCERNING AN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PALLIATIVE CARE.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill establishes, within available appropriations, a 12-member Palliative Care Advisory Council within the Department of Public Health (DPH). The council must (1) analyze the current state of palliative care in Connecticut and (2) advise DPH on matters related to improving palliative care and the quality of life for people with serious or chronic illnesses.

The bill requires the council to report annually, starting no later than January 1, 2015, its findings and recommendations to the DPH commissioner and the Public Health Committee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

PALLIATIVE CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Council members include:

1. one physician certified by the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine and (b) one registered nurse or advanced practice registered nurse certified by the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses, both appointed by the governor;
2. six licensed health care providers with experience or expertise in (a) inpatient palliative care in a hospital or nursing home, (b) palliative care in a patient's home or community setting, (c) pediatric palliative care, or (d) palliative care for young adults, adults or the elderly, all appointed by the DPH commissioner;

3. one licensed social worker experienced in working with people with serious or chronic illness and their families, appointed by the House speaker;
4. one licensed pharmacist experienced in working with people with serious or chronic illness and their families, appointed by the Senate president pro tempore;
5. one spiritual counselor experienced in working with people with serious or chronic illness and their families, appointed by the House minority leader; and
6. one American Cancer Society representative or person experienced in advocating for people with serious or chronic illness and their families, appointed by the Senate minority leader.

The appointing authorities must make their appointments by December 31, 2013 and fill any vacancies. The members serve three-year terms without compensation, but are reimbursed for necessary expenses while performing their duties.

The members must elect a chairperson who must hold the first meeting by December 31, 2013. The council must meet biannually and at the call of the chair or the request of a majority of the members. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum. Any council action taken requires a majority vote of those present.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0 (04/01/2013)